

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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## ***Jersey City Office of Emergency Management Gears Up For Tropical Storm Andrea***

***Heavy Rains & Localized Flooding Expected Friday into Saturday Morning***

JERSEY CITY - The **Jersey City Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security**, in conjunction with the **Mayor's Office**, is preparing for the first named tropical storm of the 2013 season.

**Tropical Storm Andrea**, which made landfall in Florida today, is expected to bring heavy rains between three to five inches and localized flooding to Jersey City and Hudson County beginning Friday morning. Wind gusts are expected to be below 40 miles per hour, however, motorists are asked to use caution when driving in flood prone areas.

City officials from the Mayor's Office, OEM, the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Department of Public Works, and the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA), met today to review storm preparation plans and take necessary actions. Additional staff from all essential departments has been called into work Friday or is on standby. Staff from the Office of Mayor-Elect Steven M. Fulop also attended the storm preparation meeting.

The MUA has three 12-inch pumps at the foot of York Street and three additional pumps available for locations throughout the city should the need arise. Today, the MUA cleared catch basins and sewers of debris to allow the water to go down in the event of sustained heavy rainfall. If there is a **catch basin on your street that is covered with debris** or garbage, **please call the MUA at 201-432-1150**.

The Department of Public Works, in coordination with the JCPD, began staging barricades in flood prone areas Thursday afternoon should streets need to be closed during the Friday morning or evening rush hours.

**(more)**

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Since Hurricane Sandy, OEM has purchased approximately 20 generators to power critical municipal buildings such as City Hall and the police precincts and fire stations, should there be power outages. The City has the capacity to shelter approximately 5,000 residents and has four shelters on standby. OEM has also created 15,000 square feet of storage space and has MREs (meals ready to eat) and other shelter provisions to last approximately five days.

**Flood prone roadways that motorists are asked to avoid**, if possible, are the following:

- 7th & Division St.
- 13th & Monmouth St.
- 13th & Coles St.
- 10th & Monmouth St.
- 18th & Jersey Ave.
- Grand & Washington St.
- Grand & Center St.
- Grand & Merseles St.
- Grand & Pacific Ave.
- Hudson Street between Sussex St. & Columbus Drive
- Florence & Cornelison Ave.
- Bright & Cornelison Ave.
- Foot of 7th St.
- Columbus & Merseles St.
- Rt. 1/9 truck (Route 440) from the Bayonne City line to the Charlotte Circle in both directions

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary for the City of Jersey City, at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699./////**